

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Minor amendments have been made to the Specification. Claims 1-14 as originally filed have been canceled. With this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 15-36 have been added. Applicants respectfully request these changes be entered into the application.

The first requested amendment to the Specification is with respect to Paragraph [0001]. The recitation of the International Application (of which U.S. Serial No. 09/890,559 is a National Stage) has been added to complete the history of the application, as has the issuance of U. S. Patent No. 6,740,679 B1 corresponding thereto. The requested changes are proper because the claim for priority was properly made to U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/890,559 at the time of filing and the requested amendment merely adds equivalencies to that serial number.

Applicant also requests amendment of Paragraphs [0012], [0013] and [0075]. In these paragraphs, it is requested that the mode of administration “intraperitoneally” be removed as this mode is not correct. The two modes of administration are parenterally and enterally, which includes oral and other enteral means such as through the nasogastric tube (as stated in the Specification at Paragraph [0091]). The reason for the error was an incorrect transcription.

Applicant also noted a spelling error in Paragraph [0012] for n-heptanoic. An extra “o” had been inadvertently used in the original.

The next requested amendment to the Specification is with respect to Paragraph [0073]. In this case, it has been learned that Sasol acquired Condie Chemie GMBH in 2001 and now sells Special Oil 107. *See* www.sasol.com at “sasol history.” It is believed that updating this information will be beneficial to those reviewing the patent.

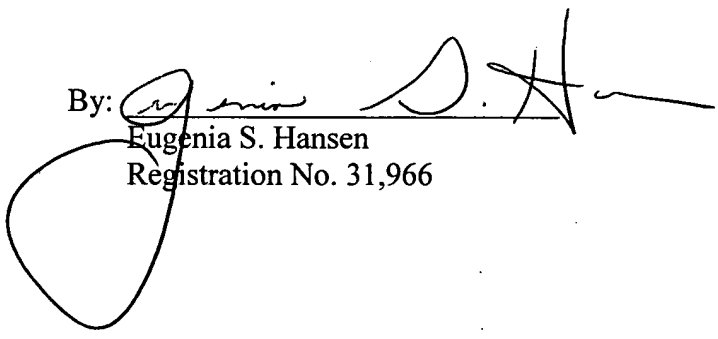
New Claims 15-36 are presented for examination, and are consonant with the restriction requirement imposed on November 5, 2003 in copending U.S. Application No. 10/371,385 (filed on 21 February 2003), which requirement was directed to a method of accelerating the growth of prematurely-born human infant by administering a seven carbon fatty acid compound or derivative thereof in class 514, subclass 547.

Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration of new claims 15-36.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 18-1260 the additional amount of \$180.00 in payment of the funds required for additional claims filed herein and \$145.00 for a multiple dependent charge. Please note that Applicant originally paid \$385.00 for a basic filing fee. If any additional fees are required, please charge the funds to Deposit Account No. 18-1260. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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ESH/ld

9 June 2004

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